

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been divided into Groups as follows:

- Group I: Claims 7-10, drawn to a method for identifying a gamma-secretase and/or a beta-secretase modulator comprising a) identifying a LAPT_M4B-interacting molecule and b) determining whether the LAPT_M4B-interacting molecule is capable of modulating gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase activity;
- Group II: Claims 11 and 12, drawn to a method for preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases comprising a) identifying a gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase modulator, and b) formulating the gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase modulator to a pharmaceutical composition;
- Group III: Claims 13-15, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a LAPT_M4B-inhibitor;
- Group IV: Claims 1-6 and 16, drawn to an *in vivo* method for treating or preventing a neurodegenerative disease, comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a LAPT_M4B-inhibitor; and
- Group V: Claim 17, drawn to the use of a LAPT_M4B-interacting molecule for the modulation of beta-secretase and/or gamma-secretase activity *in vitro*.

Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 7-10 (drawn to a method for identifying a gamma-secretase and/or a beta-secretase modulator comprising a) identifying a LAPT_M4B-interacting molecule and b) determining whether the LAPT_M4B-interacting molecule is capable of modulating gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase activity), for examination.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.


Respectfully Submitted,

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